



PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 33417/US
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Wei Zhan Hang

Application No.: 10/630,948

Filed: 29 July 2003

For: CEILING PANELING SYSTEM

Confirmation No.: 1775

Group Art Unit: 3637

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Mail Stop Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
Under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3) and 1.98

Sir:

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 during examination of the above-identified patent application. These references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting these references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality. Copies of the references are provided.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3)(i), any information disclosure statement filed under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 shall include a concise explanation of the relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, of each patent, publication or other information listed that is not in the English language. The concise explanation may be either separate from the specification or incorporated therein.

In compliance with the rule, concise explanations of the relevance of French Patent No. 1 203 394; and German Patent Nos. 1 934 185 and 84 37 592 U are as follows:

French Patent No. 1 203 394 discloses a ceiling system, including panel carriers (2), each having a horizontal arm with an upstanding free end, so that the arms form an upwardly-open U-shaped channel; and a plurality of adjacent horizontally extending ceiling panels (5), each panel having a hook shaped flange 5A on each horizontally opposite side. One of the hook shaped flanges 5A has a horizontally narrow, inwardly-extending top portion, and the other hook-shaped flange has a horizontally longer, outwardly-extending top portion. The narrow flange is provided under the longer flange when adjacent panels are installed with their flanges overlying the arm of a carrier, between the adjacent panels, and overlying the upstanding free end of that carrier's arms;

German Patent No. 1 934 185 discloses a plurality of conventional, horizontal spaced apart, parallel, panel carriers (1), each having a horizontal arm with an upstanding free end (2), so that the arm forms an upwardly-open U-shaped channel; and a plurality of adjacent, horizontally-extending, ceiling panels (3), each panel having a hook-shaped flange (4, 5) on each horizontally opposite side, forming a downwardly-open U-shaped channel above the bottom of the panel. One hook-shaped flange (5) of each panel (3) has a horizontally narrow, inwardly-extending top portion (7) and, at its free end, an inwardly- and downwardly- extending rim or edge (8), and the other hook-shaped flange (4) has a horizontally longer, outwardly-extending top portion (6) and, at its free end, a downwardly- and inwardly-extending rim (9, 10). The narrow flange (5) is provided under the longer flange (4) when adjacent panels (3) are installed with their flanges overlying the arm of a carrier, between the adjacent panels, and overlying the upstanding free end (2) of that carrier's arms.

German Patent No. 84 37 592 U discloses a fire-retardant ceiling system, including panel carriers (11), each having a horizontal arm with an upstanding free end, so that the arm forms an upwardly-open U-shaped channel; and a plurality of adjacent, horizontally-extending, ceiling panels (1), each panel having a hook-shaped flange (9,10) on each horizontally opposite side, forming a downwardly-open U-shaped channel above the bottom of the panel. One hook-shaped flange (10) of each panel (1) has a horizontally narrow, inwardly-extending top portion, and at its

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free end, an inwardly- and downwardly- extending rim or edge, and the other hook-shaped flange (9) has a horizontally longer, outwardly-extending top portion. The narrow flange (10) is provided under the longer flange (9) when adjacent panels (1) are installed with their flanges overlying the arm of a carrier, between the adjacent panels, and overlying the upstanding free end (2) of that carrier's arms.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fees are due with respect to this filing. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, such fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1415.

If the examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: Nov 5, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures

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DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.